Does the CAAs affect any Indian citizen?
No, it has absolutely nothing to do with any Indian citizen in any way. The Indian citizens enjoy fundamental rights conferred on them by the Constitution of India. No statute, including the CAAs, can override or take away from them. There has been a misinformation campaign. The CAAs do not affect any Indian citizens, including Muslim citizens.

Who does the CAAs apply to?
It is relever only for those, Sikh, Hindu, Jain, Buddhist, Parsi, and Christian foreigners, who are not citizens of Pakistan, Bangladesh, and Afghanistan and wish to live in India from 31st December 2020 to 31st December 2021, as the condition of persecution faced by them due to their religion. It does not apply to any other foreigners, including Muslims migrating to India from any country, including Pakistan and Bangladesh.

How does it benefit Hindus, Sikhs, Jain, Buddhist, Parsi, and Christian foreigners hailing from these three countries?
If their travel documents like passport and visa are not in order or are not available, they can apply for Indian citizenship if they were persecuted back home. The CAAs provide legal rights to such migrants. Secondly, they get a faster route for Indian citizenship through the NRC route. The minimum residency requirement in India would be only 1-5 years instead of 11-17 years as applicable for other categories seeking Indian citizenship.

Does this mean that Muslims from Pakistan, Bangladesh, and Afghanistan cannot get Indian citizenship?
No, the present legal process of acquiring Indian citizenship by any foreigner of any category through Naturalization (Section 6 of the Citizenship Act) or through Repatriation (Section 5 of the Citizenship Act) will not be affected after it in any manner whatsoever. Hundreds of Muslims migrating from these three countries have been granted Indian citizenship during the last few years. If you apply, you should be able to get Indian citizenship under the CAAs irrespective of their numbers or religion. In 2014, after the settlement of Indo-Bangladesh boundary issues, 14,864 Iranian citizens were given Indian citizenship when their earlier migration was incorporated into the territory of India. Thousands of these foreigners were Muslims.

Will illegal Muslim immigrants from these three countries be deported under the CAAs?
The CAAs do absolutely nothing to do with the deportation of any foreigner from India. The deportation process of any foreigner irrespective of his religion or color can be initiated only under the relevant provisions of the Foreigners Act, 1946, and the Passport Act, 1967.

Can Hindu, Sikh, or Muslim refugees claim Indian citizenship under the CAAs?
No, they have to apply through the usual process to get Indian Citizenship just like any other foreigner for either registration or naturalization as a citizen of India. They would get no preference under The Citizenship Act, 1955, even after the CAAs.

Does the CAAs also cover other forms of persecution – on grounds of race, gender, religion, national origin, political opinion, colour, language, ethnicity, etc.?
No, the CAAs is a very specific law that deals solely with the specific group of six minority community groups hailing from those neighbouring countries that have a distinct religious state religion, any foreigner persecuted abroad on any account may apply either for registration or naturalization as a citizen of India if any other foreigner if he fulfills the minimum qualifications laid down in The Citizenship Act, 1955.

The CAAs will gradually exclude Muslim immigrants from the citizenship of India.
The CAAs do not apply to any Indian citizen at all. All Indian citizens enjoy the fundamental rights guaranteed by the Constitution of India. CAAs is not meant to deprive any Indian citizen of his citizenship. Rather it is a special law to enable such persons to live in a particular situation in three neighbouring countries to get Indian citizenship.

Will the CAAs be followed by NRC and all migrants except Muslims will be given citizenship and Muslims will be sent to detention centers?
The CAAs have nothing to do with NRC. The legal principles relating to NRC have been part of The Citizenship Act, 1955 since December 2004. Also, there are specific statutory rules of 2000 to operationalize these legal provisions. They give priority to the identity cards of exceptional needs or holders of valid international travel documents or valid national identity cards to them. These legal provisions have been on the statute books since last 18-19 years. The CAAs have not altered them in any way whatsoever.

What are the rules for citizenship under CAAs?
Appropriate rules under the CAAs are being formed. They will be applicable to various provisions of the CAAs.